

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

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3. (Amended) Process for the manufacture of porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 1, characterized in that the cooling liquid has a temperature of less than  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

B2 4. (Amended) Process for the manufacture of porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 1, characterized in that the cooling liquid is a liquefied gas or a liquefied gas mixture.

5. (Amended) Process for the manufacture of porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 1, characterized in that the cooling liquid is liquid air or liquid nitrogen.

6. (Amended) Process for the manufacture of porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 1, characterized in that the droplet size is 0.3 to 5 mm in diameter.

7. (Amended) Process for the manufacture of porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to

claim 1, characterized in that the chitosan or chitosan derivative employed has a molar mass of more than 40,000.

8. (Amended) Process for the manufacture of porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 1, characterized in that the chitosan or chitosan derivative used has a molar mass of more than 75,000.

B2 9. (Amended) Process for the manufacture of porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 1, characterized in that the chitosan or chitosan derivative used has an acetylation degree of 10 to 50%.

10. (Amended) Process for the manufacture of porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 1, characterized in that the chitosan or chitosan derivative employed has an acetylation degree of 20 to 45%.

11. (Amended) Process for the manufacture of porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 1, characterized in that the basic chitosan derivative is an acylated chitosan.

12. (Amended) Porous active substance-containing pellets which disintegrate in physiological liquids within several minutes and are based on chitosan or a basic chitosan derivative,

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characterized in that the pellets are manufactured by means of a process according to claim 1.

14. (Amended) Porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 12, characterized in that they have an average particle size of 0.3 to 5 mm in diameter.

B2 15. (Amended) Porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 12, characterized in that they have an average particle size of 0.8 to 3 mm in diameter.

16. (Amended) Porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 12, characterized in that for purposes of application they are present in a hard capsule.

17. (Amended) Porous, rapidly disintegrating, active substance-containing pellets according to claim 12, characterized in that prior to intake they are placed in a liquid in which they disintegrate.

18. (Amended) Use of the pellets according to claim 12 for manufacturing a medicament or a diagnostic agent.

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